



TRAGEDY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR SURVIVORS
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The Honorable Elizabeth Warren
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Joni Ernst
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Warren and Ernst,

The Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) is the national Veterans Service Organization that provides compassionate care and resources to all those grieving the death of a military loved one. TAPS represents over 100,000 surviving military families of all who have served and died.

On behalf of our survivor community, we thank you for introducing the “Gold Star Families Day Act.” The proposed legislation would create a federal holiday as a national day of remembrance for all those who have lost a loved one to military service, regardless of the manor, place or time of death. While Memorial Day honors all those who have served and died in defense of our freedom, Gold Star Families Day would honor their families’ tremendous sacrifice for our nation.

TAPS greatly appreciates the use of inclusive language to define Gold Star Families as the majority of service-connected deaths are non-combat related. A service member's death is honored and remembered based on their life and service - not based on the geography or circumstance of their death.

TAPS fully endorses the “Gold Star Families Day Act” and we are incredibly grateful for your leadership and support. We appreciate your continued efforts to honor and strengthen our nation’s Gold Star Families and look forward to working with you to pass this important legislation. For further questions, please contact Candace Wheeler or Ashlynn Haycock at 800-959-8277 or policy@taps.org.

Respectfully,

Bonnie Carroll
President & Founder
Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS)